

MANAGEMENT

Elk are primarily grazers and browsers. They prefer a landscape with open or young habitat. The DNR manages this property by cutting old timber to create young forests and by planting food plots on state land.



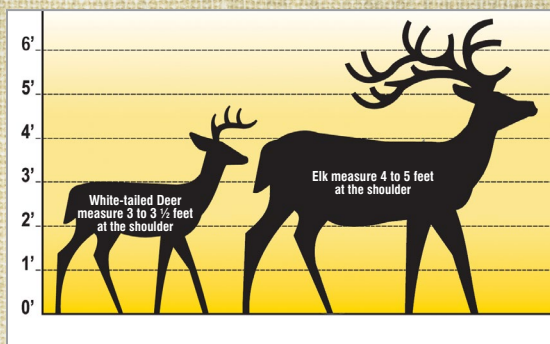
HUNTING MICHIGAN'S ELK

Elk hunting is frequently called the hunt of a lifetime for many Michigan residents. Elk hunting is the primary tool used to maintain the balance between elk numbers and habitat, while also addressing crop damage concerns. Elk hunting has occurred annually since 1984. Between 30,000 to 40,000 people apply for a chance to hunt elk every year. The number of licenses issued generally ranges from 150-400 and depends on the current population and condition of the habitat.

ENHANCING UNDERSTANDING OF ELK MANAGEMENT

Through an important partnership effort with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the DNR is working to improve elk viewing areas and elk viewing educational materials and programs.

ELK FACTS



Weight:	350 to 900 pounds
Height:	4½ to 5 feet at the shoulder
Winter Coat:	Head, neck, and legs are dark brown, while its sides and back are much lighter
Summer Coat:	Deep red-brown
Antlers:	Grow annually on male elk up to 40 pounds in weight
Food:	Grass, forbs, shrubs, trees
Young:	Calves born late May early June, 25-30 pounds
Breeding:	Late September to early October
Population:	500-900



www.michigan.gov/elk



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500-0712-001

Michigan's ELK



michigan.gov/elk



In partnership with



THE 2012 MICHIGAN ELK PLAN CHARGES THE DNR TO:

- 1) manage for a sustainable elk population in balance with habitat;
- 2) use hunting as the primary method to control elk numbers; and
- 3) to enhance public understanding of elk management in Michigan.

LEGEND



Elk Viewing Locations

— Roads

— Streams

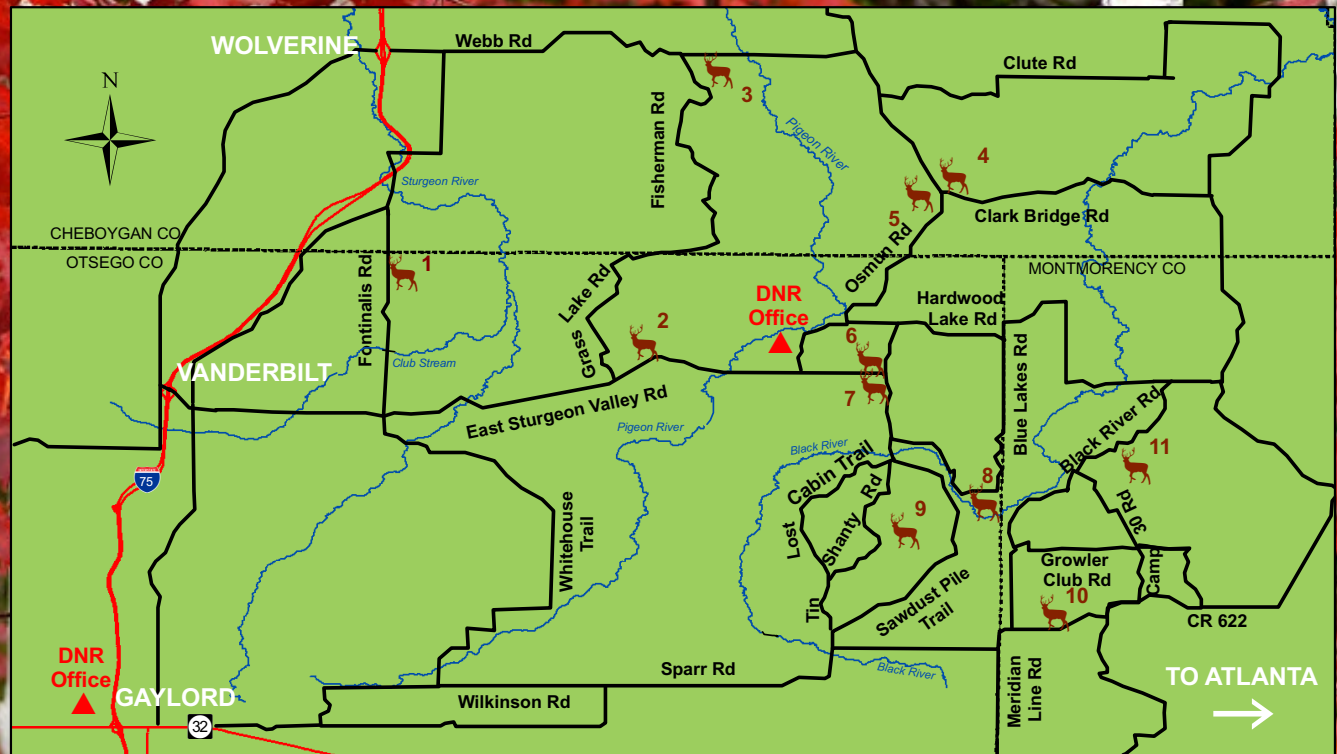
— Highway

County Lines

ELK VIEWING LOCATIONS

POINT	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	TYPE
1	45.185438	-84.590372	at road
2	45.163343	-84.499068	at road
3	45.26595	-84.476635	hike
4	45.227167	-84.387321	at road
5	45.219453	-84.395627	hike
6	45.157258	-84.41319	at road
7	45.149517	-84.415166	hike
8	45.111883	-84.377355	at road
9	45.09745	-84.40406	hike
10	45.067578	-84.349172	at road
11	45.12638	-84.32985	at road

DECIMAL DEGREES



ELK VIEWING

The most popular time to view elk is during the breeding season in September and October when they are feeding in open grassy areas and bulls are bugling. Summer observations are difficult due to leaf cover and viewing is limited. The best times to view elk are at dawn and dusk. Elk should be appreciated at a distance and individuals should not try to approach the animal. Most viewing locations can be accessed by seasonal roads; however, some may require a short hike. Viewing locations are not always marked and elk will not always be present. Elk may be viewed in many areas of the elk range.



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